



Frequently Asked Questions /Basic Skills Testing

Effective September 1, 2014, applicants taking a basic skills test to seek admission to an educator preparation program will be required to complete the reading, mathematics, and writing portions of the CORE Academic Skills for Educators Test published by Educational Testing Service of Princeton, New Jersey.

1. What are the passing scores for the CORE Academic Skills test in Nebraska?

CORE Academic Test passing scores shall consist of the following:

- 156 or above on the CORE Academic Reading Test (5712)
- 150 or above on the CORE Academic Mathematics Test (5732)
- 162 or above on the CORE Academic Writing Test; or
- A composite score of 468 on all three portions of the CORE Academic Test, with no single test score being more than one point below the score required above, and upon the recommendation of a standard institution of higher education. (Candidates wishing to take all three CORE Academic Tests at the same time should register for 5751 Combined Test. Scores will be reported by individual test, 5712, 5722, 5732.)

2. Will Nebraska continue to use the composite score option?

Yes, the composite score option will continue with the CORE Academic Skills Tests. It is an institution's decision to allow the composite score option.

3. What if a candidate took the Praxis I/PPST tests and did not pass all three tests before September 1, 2014?

If a candidate has only passed one or two of the Praxis I /PPST tests by August 31, 2014, effective September 1, 2014, candidates can then register for and take the remaining Praxis I CORE test(s) they still need to pass. The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) will accept both Praxis I /PPST scores and Praxis I CORE scores. It is the institution's decision to allow both Praxis I/PPST and CORE scores. There will be no composite score option accepted by NDE with the combination of Praxis I/PPST and CORE Academic Skills tests.

4. How long will Praxis I/PPST scores be accepted and viable?

Indefinitely. If a candidate took the Praxis I/PPST previously, NDE will still accept those scores.

5. Will continuous testing be available with the CORE Academic Skills tests?

Yes, continuous testing is available for the CORE Academic Skills tests.

6. Will a paper/pencil option be available for the CORE Academic Skills tests?

CORE Academic Skills tests will be available in paper/pencil format only for those who require accommodations, as long as the appropriate documentation is on file with ETS.

(See <https://www.ets.org/disabilities> for the most current information.)

"This guidance document is advisory in nature but is binding on an agency until amended by such agency. A guidance document does not include internal procedural documents that only affect the internal operations of the agency and does not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or include confidential information or rules and regulations made in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. If you believe that this guidance document imposes additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties, you may request a review of the document. For comments regarding this document contact nde.guidance@nebraska.gov"

7. Where can I find more information about the CORE Academic Skills Tests?

The ETS Praxis® CORE Academic Skills for Educators Tests Overview - Webpage

<http://www.ets.org/praxis/about/core/>

The **Praxis Series Information Bulletin** gives complete details about registration, test fees, score reports, and many other matters related to Praxis I (and Praxis II) tests.

http://www.ets.org/s/praxis/pdf/praxis_information_bulletin.pdf